

**Mutations in ribosomal protein L3 are associated with oxazolidinone resistance in staphylococci of clinical origin**

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Locke JB, Hilgers M, Shaw KJ.

Trius Therapeutics, Inc., San Diego, CA 92121, USA.

Following recent reports of ribosomal protein L3 mutations in laboratory-derived linezolid-resistant (LZD(r)) *Staphylococcus aureus*, we investigated whether similar mutations were present in LZD(r) staphylococci of clinical origin. Sequence analysis of a variety of LZD(r) isolates revealed two L3 mutations, DeltaSer145 (*S. aureus* NRS127) and Ala157Arg (*Staphylococcus epidermidis* 1653059), both occurring proximal to the oxazolidinone binding site in the peptidyl transferase center. The oxazolidinone torezolid maintained a  $\geq 8$ -fold potency advantage over linezolid for both strains.

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